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EXILES



THIS IS HOW IT WAS SUPPOSED TO HAVE HAPPENED...

...A FEW YEARS AGO, THE X-MEN OF REALITY SIX-ONE-SIX FOUGHT THE MUTANT SON OF THEIR FRIEND, MOIRA MACTAGGERT.

KEVIN MACTAGGERT POSSESSED HIS FATHER'S BODY, WITHERING IT TO A HUSK AS HE USED UP ITS LIFE-FORCE.

WHEN X-MAN PETER RASPUTIN THREW HIM INTO A WALL, KEVIN CRUMBLLED LIKE A DRIED-OUT MUMMY.

WHAT WAS LEFT WAS HIS TRUE SELF--A GHOSTLY WRAITH CAPABLE OF RESHAPING THE FABRIC OF REALITY ITSELF.

BY THEN, HE WAS CALLING HIMSELF *PROTEUS*, AFTER THE SHAPE-CHANGING GOD OF GREEK MYTH. I GUESS THAT FIT, SINCE HE HAD GODLIKE POWER.

HE ALSO HAD ONE BIG VULNERABILITY--METAL COULD DISRUPT THE DELICATE ENERGY MATRIX THAT HELD HIM TOGETHER.

TOO BAD FOR HIM HE PICKED A FIGHT WITH *COLOSSUS*, WHO CAN TRANSFORM INTO LIVING STEEL.

IF *COLOSSUS* HADN'T DESTROYED HIM, *PROTEUS* MIGHT HAVE BECOME THE MOST DANGEROUS MUTANT EVER.

⊗ THE CRYSTAL PALACE
OUTSIDE SPACE AND TIME

THAT'S HOW IT
WAS SUPPOSED
TO HAPPEN...
ACCORDING TO THE
OFFICIAL HISTORY
FILES OF EARTH
SIX-ONE-SIX.

UNFORTUNATELY, THAT
HISTORY HAS SOMEHOW
BEEN REWRITTEN. THERE
ARE NO X-MEN ON EARTH
SIX-ONE-SIX NOW...

...ONLY MY BEST FRIENDS,
FACING A MURDERER CAPABLE
OF MAKING HIS SICKEST WISHES
REAL, AND STEALING THE BODY
OF WHOEVER GETS TOO CLOSE.

MY NAME IS
HEATHER HUDSON.
I RUN "MISSION
CONTROL" FOR A
DIMENSION-HOPPING,
UNIVERSE-SAVING
TEAM OF MUTANTS
KNOWN AS
THE EXILES.

I TALK TO THEM VIA
A COMMUNICATOR
BRACELET CALLED THE
TALLUS. AND RIGHT NOW
THE PERSON WEARING
THE TALLUS IS THE ONE
I KNOW LEAST...

SABRETOOTH,
LISTEN TO ME--I KNOW
HOW THIS GUY WAS
BEATEN BEFORE, BUT
IT'S NOT GOING TO
BE EASY...

SO YUIR THE
FAMOUS EXILES
I'VE HEARD SO
MUCH ABOUT!

BEAK SAYS YUIR
ALWAYS TRAVELIN'
TAE OTHER REALITIES,
RESHAPIN' EACH NEW
EARTH YE COME
ACROSS!

SOUNDS
BRILLIANT.
WHERE DO I
SIGN UP?

THE WOMAN DOING ALL THE
TALKING IS NO WOMAN AT ALL.
THE BODY ONCE BELONGED TO
BEAK'S GIRLFRIEND, ANGEL. NOW
IT'S JUST ANOTHER SHELL
BEING USED UP BY PROTEUS.

WORLD
HOUSE OF M
TOUR
Conclusion



HUSH NOW, BEAK. I'VE WANTED TAE MEET YUIR FRIENDS SINCE FIRST I SPIED 'EM LAST NIGHT. I SENSED SOMETHIN' SPECIAL ABOUT THEM.



AN' NOW, LO AN' BEHOLD, THEY SHOW UP HERE...WITH MY MUM, OF ALL PEOPLE!

NOW, CAN THAT BE COINCIDENCE, I ASK YE? SHUIRLY, WE'RE ALL MEANT TAE CROSS PATHS!



I'M JUST A VOICE IN THE HEAD OF WHOEVER WEARS THE TALLUS, SO NO ONE HEARS AS I TELL SABRETOOTH HOW TO BEAT PROTEUS.

HE'S NOT THRILLED THAT IT ALL HINGES ON MIMIC'S ABILITY TO REPRODUCE COLOSSUS'S POWER.



THE KID AIN'T UP TO IT. YOU KNOW HE SWORE HE'D NEVER KILL AGAIN.

HE HAS TO BE UP TO IT, SABRETOOTH, OR YOU'RE ALL DEAD!



WHO'S THAT YUIR WHISPERIN' TAE, MISTER SEEBRETOOTH?



FOR A MOMENT, I
THINK SOMETHING'S
WRONG WITH THE
VIEWSCREEN.

EEYAHHH!

GIVE US A
LOOK AT YUIR
BANGLE, BIG
LAD.

SEEMS LIKE GOLD,
BUT 'TIS NAE METAL AT
ALL. S'MORE LIKE A HOOLE
IN TIME, AN' I BET I KNOW
WHO'S ON THE OTHER
SIDE...

HULLO, IN
THERE! BEAK
TOLD ME ABOUT
YE, TOO!

MIND IF
I PAY A WEE
VISIT?

REALITY
INDICES AND
SECONDARY
DATABASES
ARE BEING
ACCESSED!

WHAT?
HOW?!

PROTEUS IS SOMEHOW DOWNLOADING
OUR LISTINGS OF UNIVERSE AFTER UNIVERSE,
LIKE SOME TRANSDIMENSIONAL HACKER.

NEVER
MIND--SHUT
IT OFF!

POIT

SHUT IT
ALL OFF!

KZAKK
SPAK

POIT

BAD ENOUGH HE'S A
THREAT TO HIS OWN
REALITY, BUT LETTING
THAT MONSTER GLIMPSE
OTHER WORLDS HE
COULD MURDER HIS WAY
ACROSS...?

OCH, HOW
RUDE! SHE
SLAMMED
THE DOOR
ON ME.

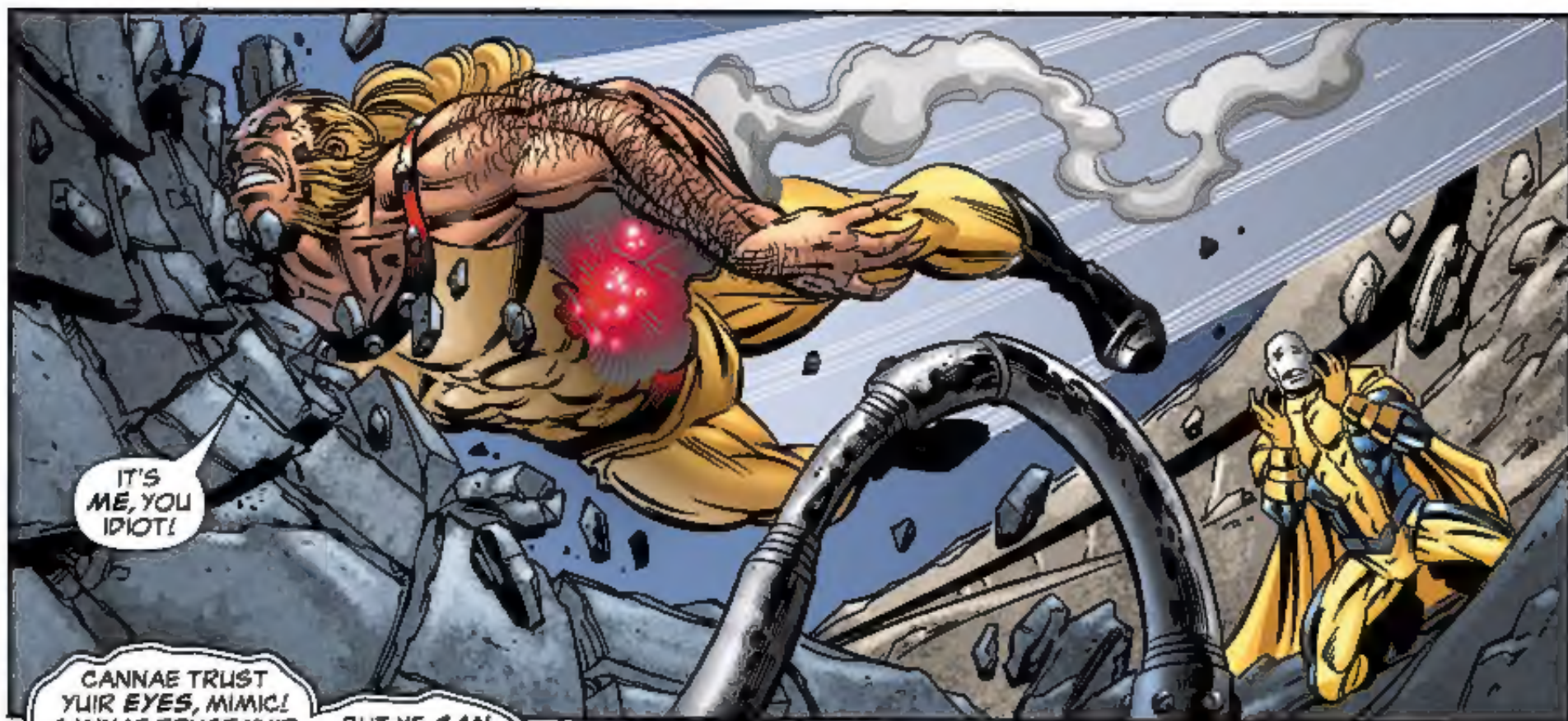
POIT

GAHH...

SHE SEEMED
SURPRISED I COULD
DO THAT. SO DID YEH,
FOR THAT MATTER.

DIDN'T DEAR
ALL' MUM TELL
YE ANYTHIN'
ABOUT ME?





IT'S
ME, YOU
IDIOT!

CANNAE TRUST
YUIR EYES, MIMIC!
CANNAE TRUST YUIR
INSTINCTS--

--BUT YE CAN
TRUST ME TAE
ROOT OUT WHAT
SCARES YE!



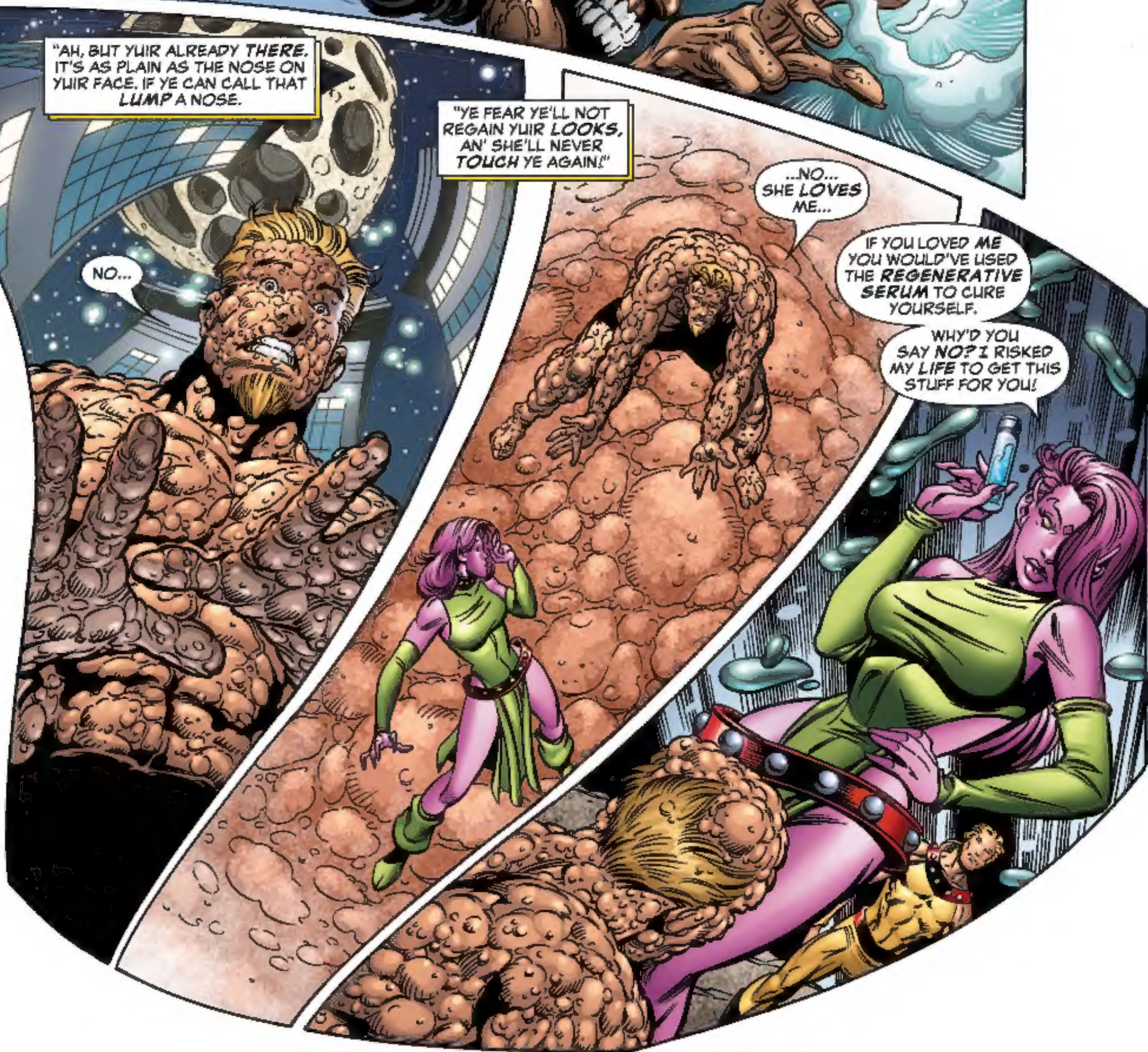
"AH, BUT YUIR ALREADY THERE.
IT'S AS PLAIN AS THE NOSE ON
YUIR FACE. IF YE CAN CALL THAT
LUMP A NOSE.

"YE FEAR YE'LL NOT
REGAIN YUIR LOOKS,
AN' SHE'LL NEVER
TOUCH YE AGAIN!"

...NO...
SHE LOVES
ME...

IF YOU LOVED ME
YOU WOULD'VE USED
THE **REGENERATIVE
SERUM** TO CURE
YOURSELF.

WHY'D YOU
SAY NO? I RISKED
MY LIFE TO GET THIS
STUFF FOR YOU!





CLARICE...?

YOU KNOW IN
THE END THERE'S
ONLY ONE MAN
FOR HER.

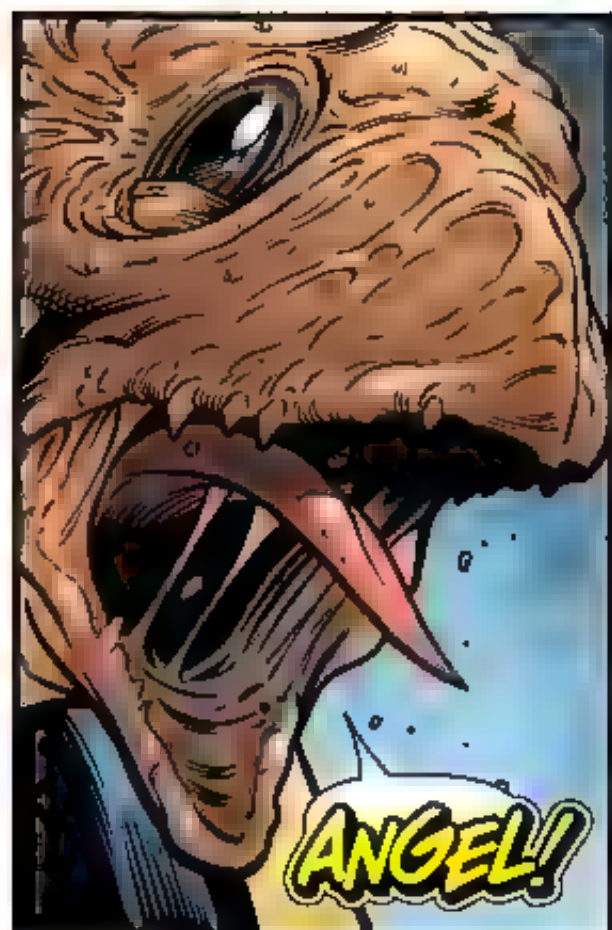
HE'S A BEAST
AN' A KILLER, BUT
SHE STILL LOVES
HIM IN A WAY
SHE'LL NEVER
LOVE YEH.

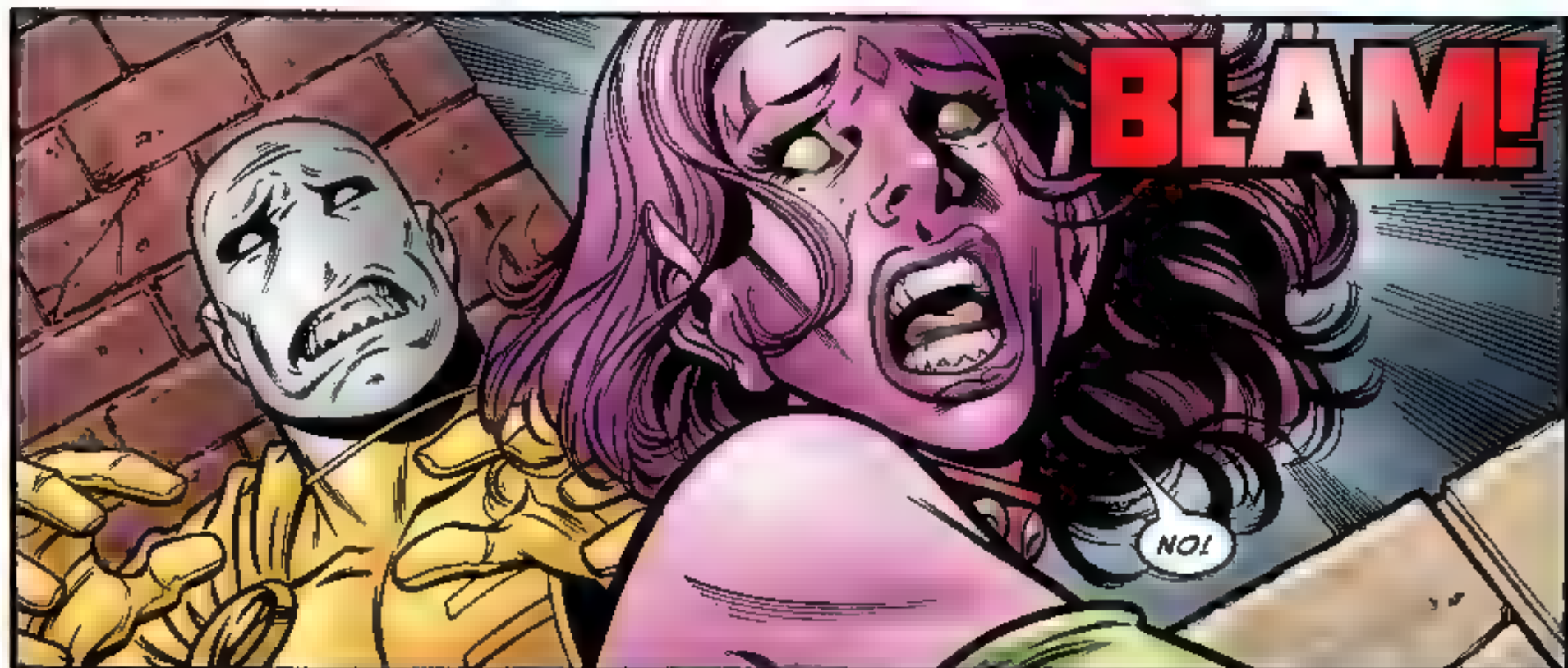
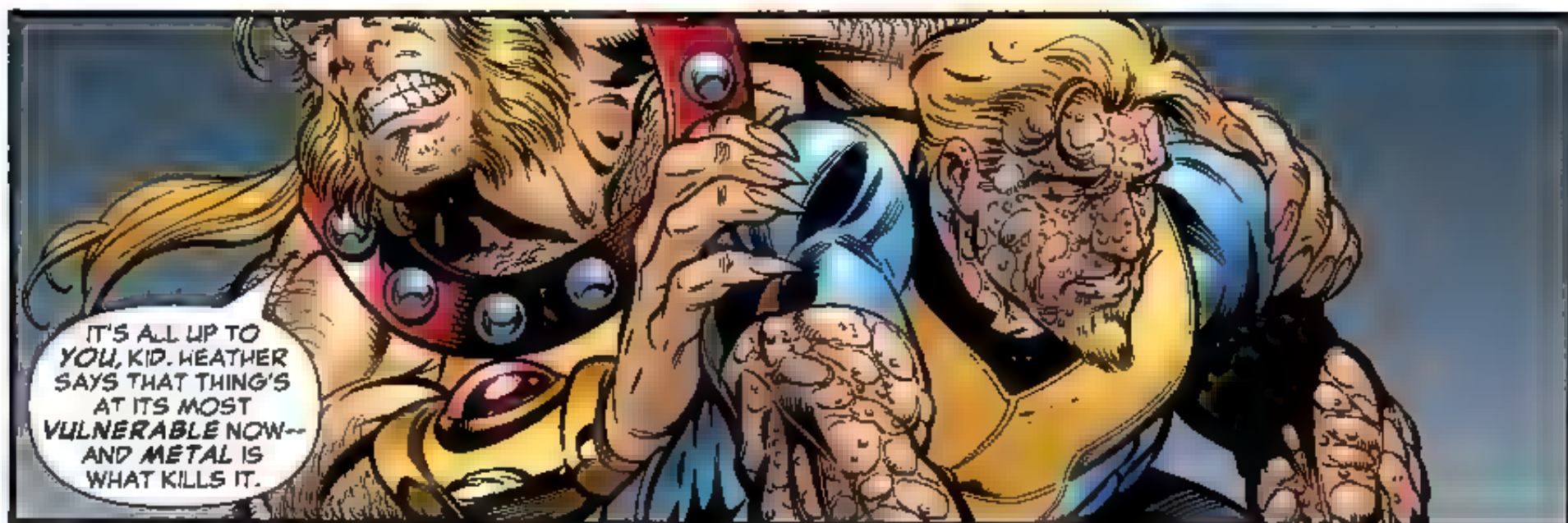
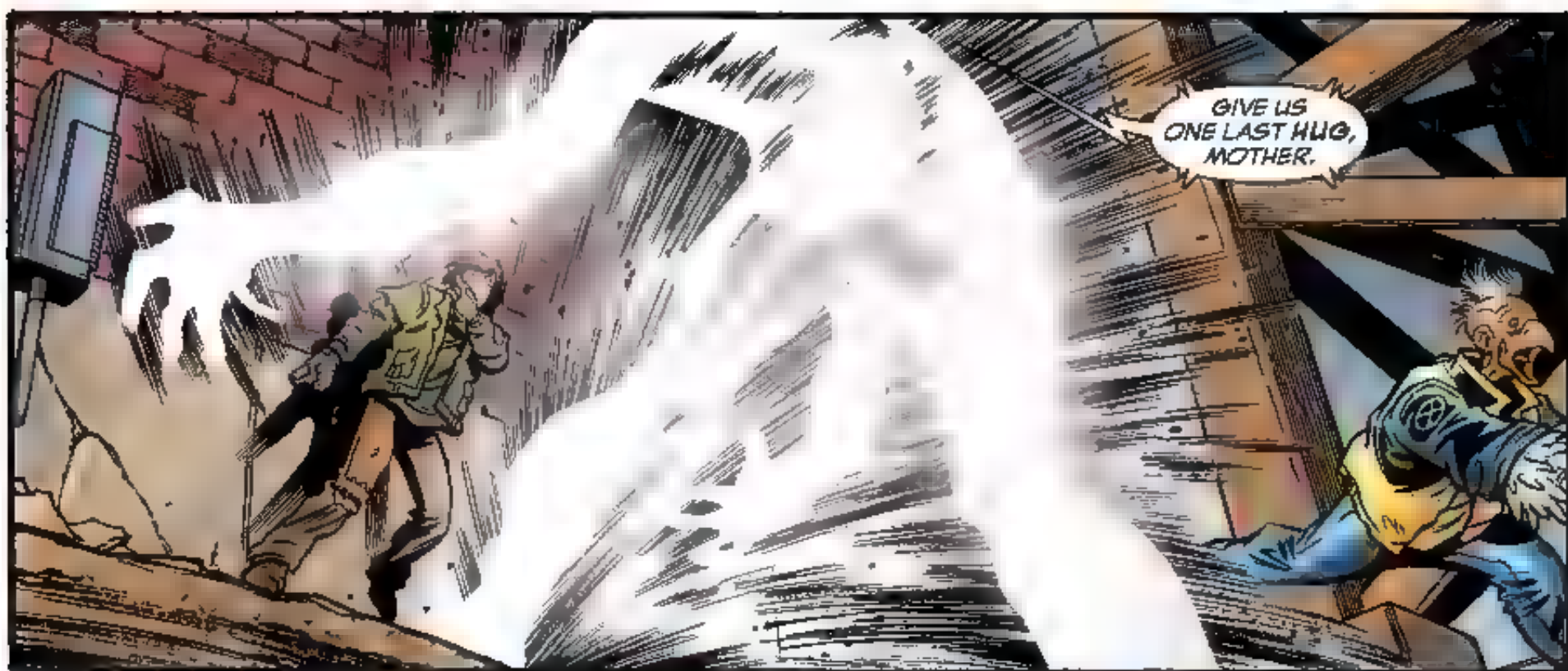
FACE IT--
YE CAN'T
COMPLETE!

CLARICE...!

MAY AS
WELL JUST
END IT ALL...

BLAM!







YE NEVER
WERE THE
NURTURIN'
TYPE!

YOU EVIL
SACK OF...



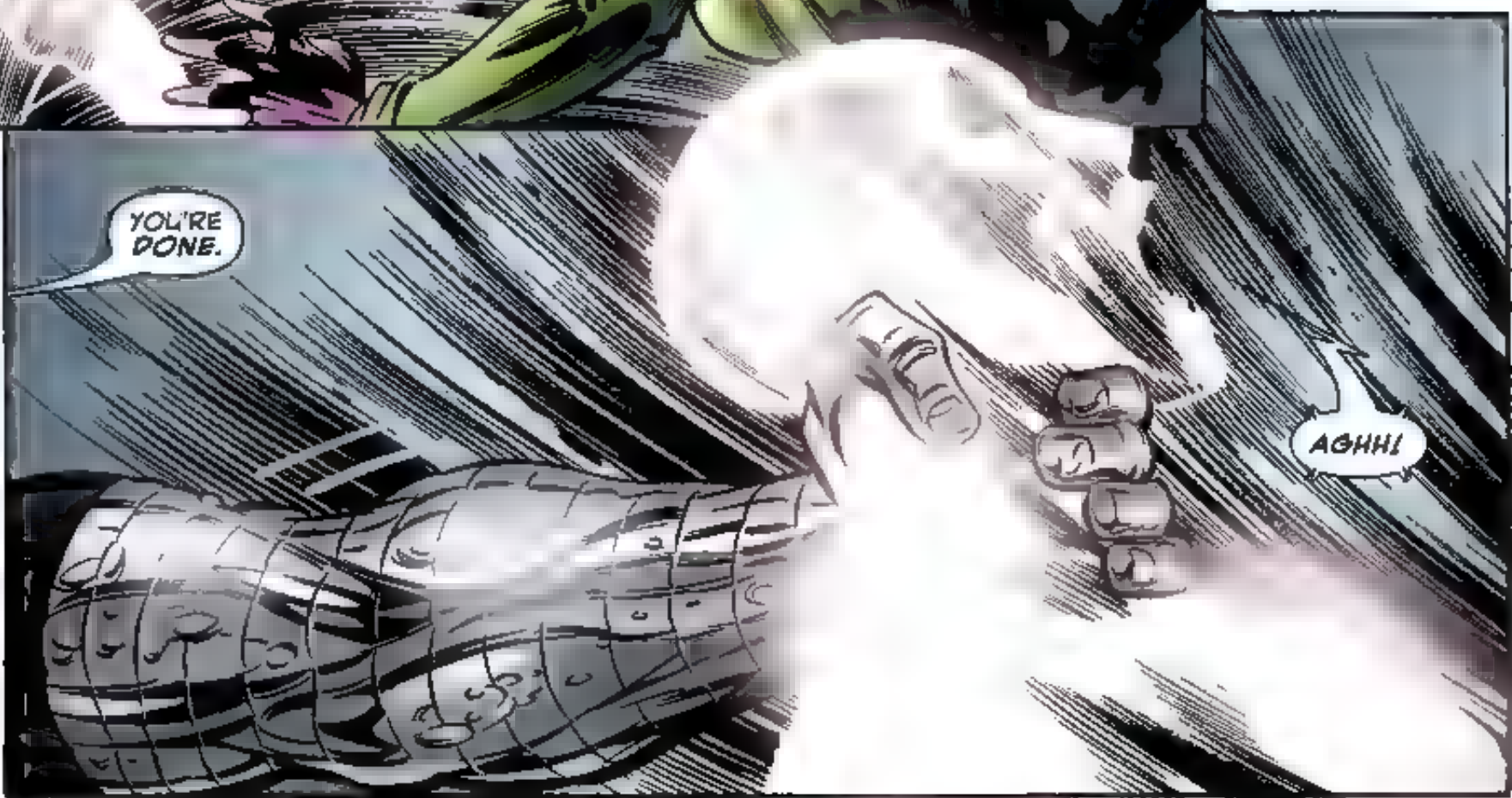
HA! I'LL BE
THE ONE WARPIN'
SPACE ROUND HERE,
THANK YEH!



THOUGH,
I WONDER
WHAT I COULD
DO WITH YOUR
POWERS...

I... WHY
CAN'T I BLINK
AWAY?

YE REALLY
HAVE TAE
ASK?



YOU'RE
DONE.

AGHH!



LET GO!
YUIR KILLIN'
ME!

YOU
BROUGHT IT ON
YOURSELF.

NO! YUIR
NO MURDERER!
YE MADE A SACRED
OATH! I SAW IT IN
YUIR MIND!

CALVIN, LISTEN
TAE THAT LITTLE VOICE IN
YUIR HEART--THE ONE
THAT SAYS--

"HA, HA--"



GYAHHI!

...MADE YE HESITATE!

YE HAD YLIR SHOT AT ME...

GALI!

HULLO, CLARICE...

SNIKT

YUIR BOY-FRIEND DIED AN ANGRY MAN!

HE DINNAE LIKE YUIR DADDY ONE BIT!

SNIKT

HROOOW!

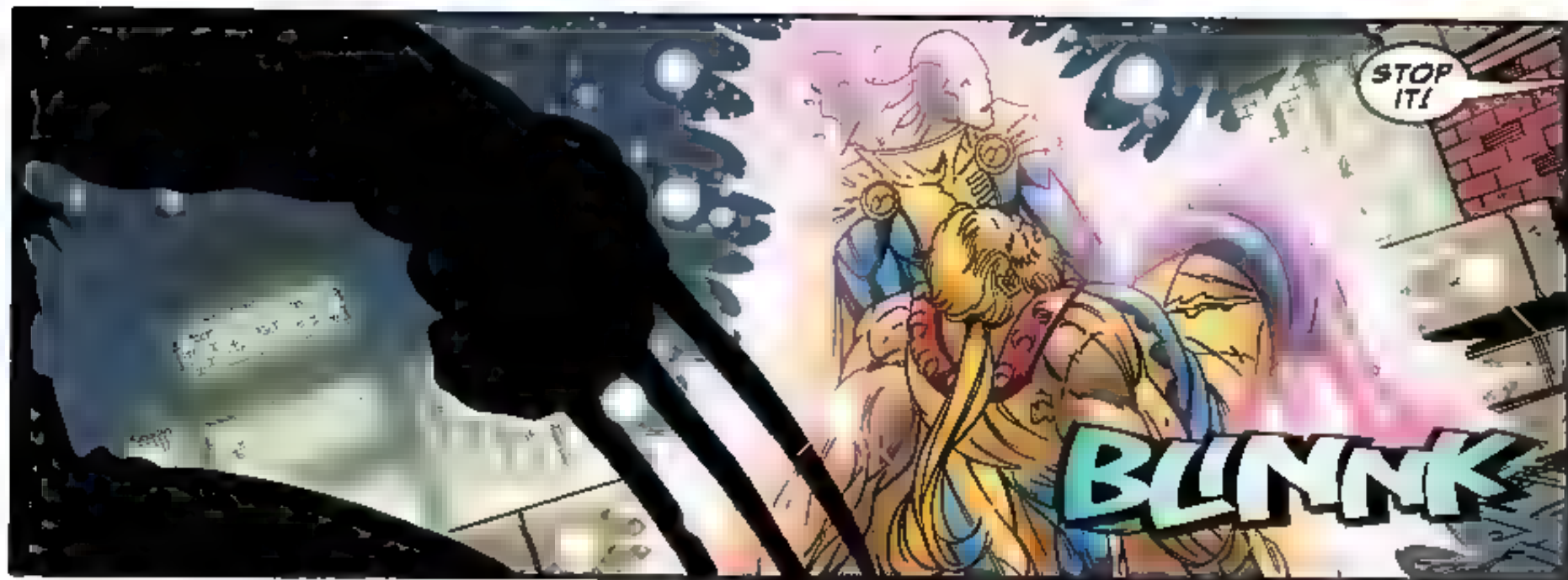
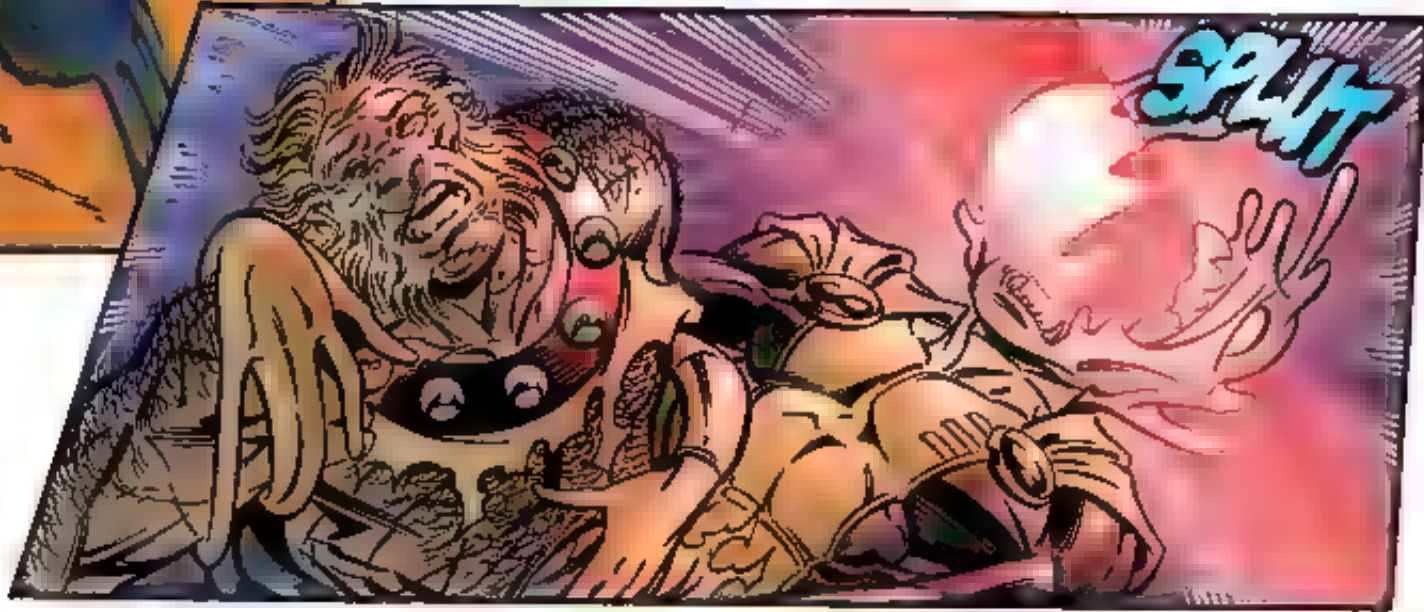
SHRAPF

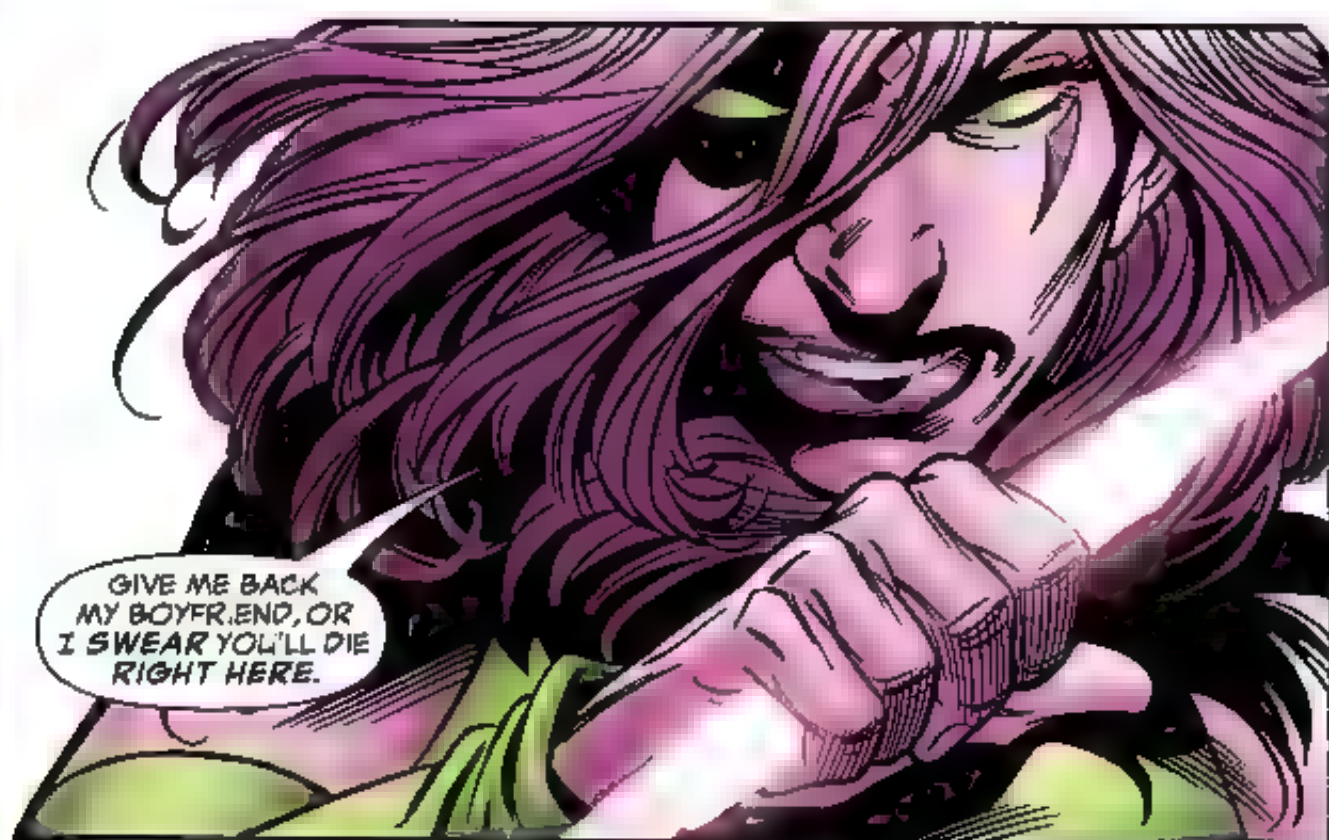
YE BIG, DAFT ANIMAL.

YE VE NO IDEA HOW OUTMATCHED YE ARE.

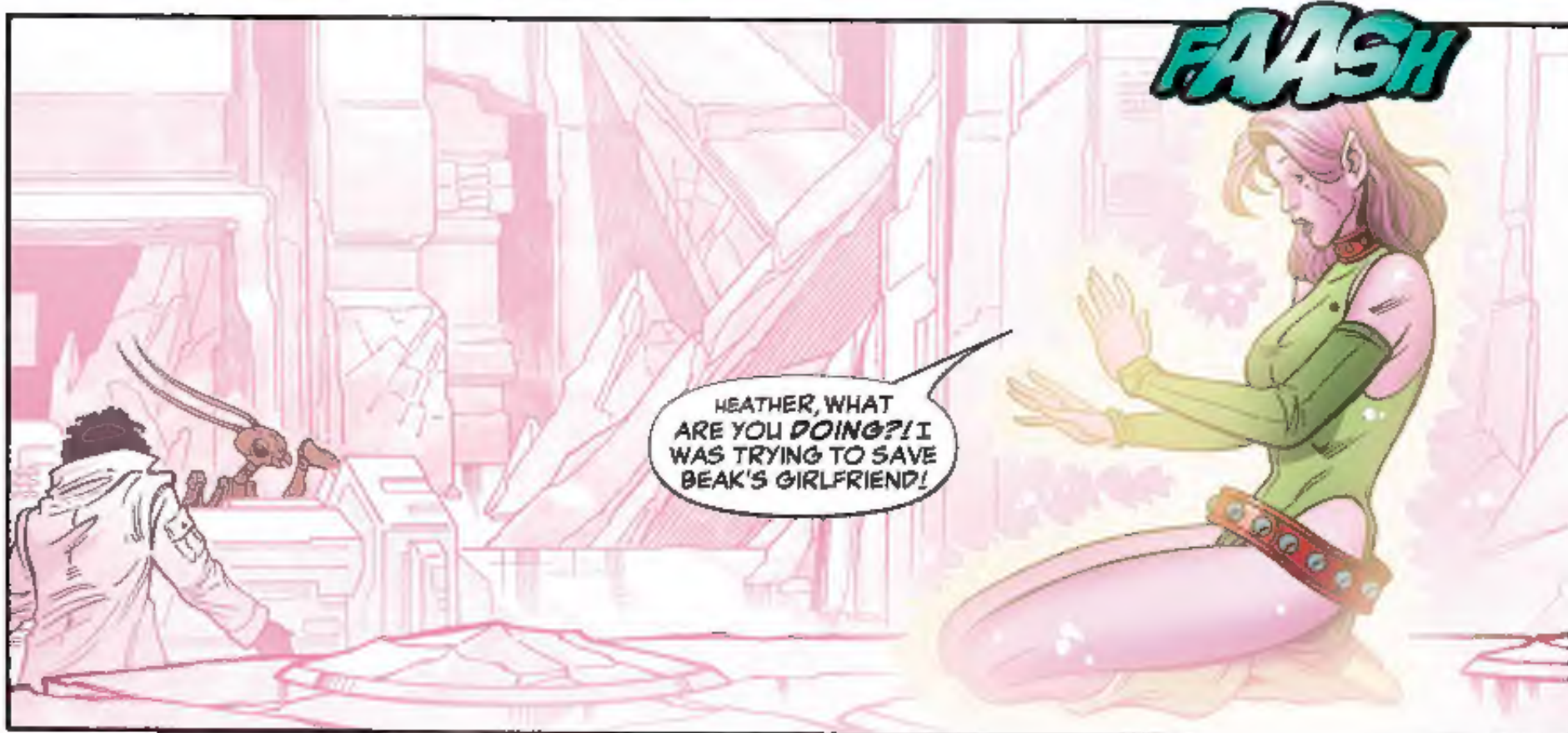
NOW, LET'S TRY THAT AGAIN, SHALL WE?

RRAHRR!











"DON'T ASK ME HOW, BUT WANDA MAXIMOFF USED THAT MUTANT **HEX POWER** OF HERS TO RESHAPE THEIR WHOLE WORLD--MAKING **MUTANTS** THE MAJORITY.

BLINK!
COME
BACK!

...NNN...



"MAYBE HER ABILITY TO ALTER PROBABILITY FIELDS GOT **SUPER-CHARGED** SOMEHOW, I DON'T KNOW.

ANGEL?
CAN YOU
HEAR ME?

...OH...H...



"THE IMPORTANT THING IS THAT OUR SCANNERS SAY SHE'S STARTING TO **REMAKE REALITY** SIX-ONE-SIX AGAIN.



"IF I DIDN'T PULL YOU OUT NOW, YOU MIGHT NOT EVEN **EXIST** ANYMORE IN WHATEVER NEW REALITY TAKES ITS PLACE.



"I MEAN, **WHO KNOWS** HOW SHE'LL CHANGE EVERYTHING **THIS TIME...**"



